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# GILBERT'S LLP

January 20, 2011

**By e-mail**

Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti  
100 Queen Street West, Suite B27  
Toronto, ON  
M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Mammoliti:

**Re: Ice Rink Infrastructure Task Force**

We write on behalf of Jutta Mason and the Centre for Local Research into Public Space (CELOS). Our clients read with interest the article in today's Globe and Mail on your proposal to establish a task force on public-private partnerships to increase ice rink infrastructure.

Our clients share your concern that Toronto residents have faced difficulties in accessing the city's public rink assets, and they would be grateful to be involved in the task force on ice rink infrastructure.

We note that our clients intended to introduce a motion at tomorrow's meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee requesting the creation of a Public Rinks Conservancy steering committee. This steering committee would study forms of governance for Toronto's outdoor municipal rinks, and it would be composed of councillors, local rink users, and city staff.

This week, our clients were informed that the City Manager, Joseph Pennachetti, had indicated that: (1) a Public Rinks Conservancy steering committee would be considered a "public advisory body"; (2) the City Manager's office has undertaken a City-wide review of such bodies; and (3) until such time as that report is submitted to Council, there exists a moratorium on the creation of new public advisory bodies. Accordingly, our clients did not request that their motion come before the committee.

We note that your motion to establish an ice rink infrastructure task force contemplates the inclusion of a wide variety of interested stakeholders, including the public:

"5. Include in the membership of the Task Force representation from key stakeholders such as, but not limited to, government, business, organized labour, appropriate community funding organizations, relevant research centres and advisory bodies and users in the development of Social Finance approaches."

We would like to draw your attention to the unrealized ice permit times at the city's 50 compressor-cooled outdoor rinks. Our clients have been working on improving these rinks for the last ten years (see <http://cityrinks.ca>), and they have an interest in public-private partnerships to improve ice rink infrastructure.

In 2007, CELOS produced a report addressing needed improvements in outdoor rink operations, which was forwarded by the Parks and the Environment Committee to city staff for review. CELOS has also been successful in developing fundraising methods for outdoor rinks.

Our clients will be attending the committee meeting tomorrow, and they would be grateful to be involved in the task force on ice rink infrastructure.

Yours very truly,

GILBERT'S LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TG' with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Tim Gilbert

CC:

City Manager's Office  
Kelly McCarthy, Committee Administrator  
Councillor Ana Bailão